

**April 16, 2004**

Dear Friend,

On April 2nd, the House finally passed H.R. 3550, the Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (or TEA-LU). This important legislation is critical to improving our state's infrastructure. Also, the Transportation bill is most likely the only REAL jobs bill the 108th Congress will pass. I have been arguing since early 2003 when we began debating President Bush's tax cut programs, that the best way to produce jobs is to invest in rebuilding our infrastructure. Amazingly, we've lost nearly 3 million jobs in America since January 2001, so this bill is a good step in the right direction to turn around our struggling economy. I am pleased that the version of the bill passed by the House contained many of the priority projects I requested for our state. Click [here](#) for more information.

Last month, I hosted a Town Hall for Senior Citizens in Rio Rancho to educate them about the new Medicare Prescription Drug benefit. This is an incredibly complicated program, and I want to help New Mexico seniors fully understand what this new benefit really will or will not do to lower costs. For more information on what I am doing on this issue, please click [here](#) for more information. I also have added a calculator to my website so you can try to determine what your "savings" might be under the plan Congress passed last year. To learn more about it, click [here](#).